

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 OPR-02 ST-01 /043 W

----- 006925

R 020650Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

INFO USDAO CAIRO

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN GERMANY

USMTM DHAHRAN

COE RIYADH

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

CHIEF MAAG ATHENS GREECE

CINCUSAEUR HEIDELBERG GERMANY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENGLAND

CHIEF MAAG ADDIS ABABA

SECSTATE WASHDC 3541

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 0725

E.O. 11652: GDS

TWGS: AREC, SA

SUBJECT: MAC SERVICING OF ADDIS ABABA, CAIRO AND JIDDA

REF: CINCEUR 121840Z JAN 76 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL REQUESTS INFORMATION RELATING TO ALL RPT ALL
AIRLIFT REQUIREMENTS WHICH COULD JUSTIFY MAC SERVICING CAIRO
AND JIDDA.

2. IN ADDITION TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSARY
SUPPLIES PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED BY VARIOUS MESSAGES,
AMEMBASSY JIDDA CONSIDERS MAC SERVICING COULD BE EXTENDED
TO INCLUDE OTHER TYPES SHIPMENTS AND PASSENGER MOVEMENT
AS WELL. AS INDICATED PREVIOUSLY, AMEMBASSY COMMISSARY
IS AVAILABLE FOR SERVICING ALL U.S. GOVERNMENT COMPONENTS
IN JIDDA, INCLUDING BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY. ONCE
RELIABLE SOURCE OF SUPPLY IS ESTABLISHED FOR COMMISSARY,
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ITS AVAILABILITY COULD BE EXTENDED TO DOD PERSONNEL IN

TAIF AND OTHER LOCATIONS CLOSER TO JIDDA THAN RIYADH WHERE THEY NOW OBTAIN SOME SUBSISTENCE REQUIREMENTS.

3. EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT INAUGURATION OF MAC SERVICE TO JIDDA WOULD RELIEVE MANY LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS PRESENTLY CAUSED BECAUSE OF ABNORMAL PORT CONGESTION OF JIDDA HARBOR WHERE OFFLOADING OF VESSELS IS NOW RUNNING MINIMUM OF 150 DAYS (OVER 200 VESSELS NOW IN PORT WAITING TO OFFLOAD). IMPROVEMENT OF PORT CONDITIONS NOT FORESEEN UNTIL NEXT YEAR, AND THAT MAY BE OVERLY OPTIMISTIC SINCE DEVELOPING PLANS OF COUNTRY WILL REQUIRE UNPRECEDENTED IMPORTATION OF GOODS AND IT IS UNLIKELY THAT PORT EXPANSION CAN KEEP A PACE OF INFLOW.

4. SPECIFICALLY, EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT ALL RPT ALL SHIPMENTS IT NOW RECEIVES VIA SURFACE VESSELS OR OVERLAND (FROM EUROPE) SHOULD BE AIRLIFTED FROM TRANSSHIPMENT POINT IN EUROPE. THESE SHIPMENTS WOULD INCLUDE HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED JIDDA AS WELL AS THOSE FOR OFFICIAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT.

5. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO CONTEMPLATE USING MAC FOR MOVEMENT OF PASSENGERS TAKING R&R AND FOR OTHER OFFICIAL TRAVEL.

6. IN VIEW FOREGOING, FOLLOWING INFORMATION SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED PARA 3 REFTEL IS PROVIDED:

A. TOTAL MONTHLY MOVEMENT OF PASSENGERS (STATE AND USIA ONLY): 12. TOTAL TONS CARGO (STATE AND USIA ONLY): 10 TONS MONTHLY

B. FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS: ONCE A WEEK.

C. REQUIRED STARTING DATE OF SERVICE: AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

D. RATIONALE FOR REQUESTING MAC CHANNEL SERVICE: SEE PARA 3 ABOVE.

E. OTHER APPROPRIATE INFORMATION: MOVEMENT OF EMBASSY SHIPMENTS VIA MAC WOULD ENSURE EXPEDITIOUS CUSTOMS CLEARANCES SINCE AIRPORT CUSTOMS FACILITIES MORE ADVANCED AND LESS OVERWORKED THAN THOSE AT PORT. LANDING RIGHTS NO PROBLEM, AND CARGO HANDLING CAPABILITIES AT AIRPORT EXCELLENT. WE SUGGEST THAT

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TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR CARGO (SEE PARA 4 ABOVE) BE FROM ATHENS IF SUCH IS POSSIBLE. SUBSISTENCE SHIPMENTS WILL ORIGINATE ATHENS UNLESS THE REQUIREMENTS EXCEED ATHENS CAPABILITIES AND PROVIDING OUTCOME OF GOG-US NEGOTIATIONS IS FAVORABLE. OTHERWISE SUBSISTENCE SHIPMENTS WILL BE FROM OTHER SOURCES, TO BE DETERMINED.

7. AS INDICATED PARA 4 REFTTEL, NAPLES WOULD BE FIRST CHOICE FOR ALTERNATIVE SITE OF SUPPORT IF ATHENS NOT POSSIBLE, AND EMBASSY CONCURS THAT NAPLES WOULD BE MOST SATISFACTORY BOTH AS SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR SUBSISTENCE ITEMS AS WELL AS IDEAL TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR CARGO.

8. EMBASSY POINTS OUT THAT APPROVAL FOR STATE USE OF MAC AIRLIFT MUST COME FROM STATE DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON. CONCERNED OFFICES IN STATE ARE VERY FAMILIAR WITH DIFFICULTIES POSED TO ITS OPERATIONS IN SAUDI ARABIA BECAUSE OF CLOGGED PORTS AND INABILITY OF POST COMMISSARY TO OBTAIN RELIABLE SERVICING THROUGH CONVENTIONAL MEANS. EMBASSY, THEREFORE, SUGGESTS THAT STATE DEPARTMENT WILL BE FAVORABLY INCLINED TO APPROVE MAC SERVICING TO CAIRO AND JIDDA UTILIZING FLIGHT NOW SERVICING ADDIS ABABA.

9. ALL FUTURE MESSAGES THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE REPEATED SECSTATE WASHDC FOR ACTION OR INFO AS APPROPRIATE.
PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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